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" " Section V
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# SECOND INTERROGATION OF FIVE MEMBERS OF THE RLM/ FORSCHUNGSAMT

The attached is a report of the interrogation at DUSTBIN KRANSBERG near FRANKFURT of the five members of the FA of whose previous interrogation at FLENSBURG the report was published as TICOM I/25.

TICOM
2 Aug. 1945

No. of pages 4

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RLM/FORSCHUNGSAMT

Interrogation of the following five members of RLM/FA on Saturday, 28 July 1945 at DUSTRIN by Capt. Campbell and Capt. Lively.

ODEN, Hoeckly, Reg. Rat Dipl. Ing.

PAETZEL, Martin, ORR, Dr.

SEIFERT, Walter, Min. Rat

FINGERHUT, Otto, Reg. Rat

KLAUTSCHKE, Heinz, Dr.

A. Oden

According to O. RLM/FA consisted of the following six Hauptabteilungen:

I. Organisation und Verwaltung: Leiter-Min Rat. Berggren
II. Personal: Leiter-Reg. Rat Kempe
III. Einsatz und Erfassung: Leiter Min. Rat Breuer
IV. Entzifferung: Leiter-Min. Rat Dir. Schroeder
V. Auswertung: Leiter-Min. Rat Seifert
VI. Technik- Leiter-ORR Stabenow

These Hauptabteilungen were subdivided into Abteilungen of which there were altogether about 15. Hauptabteilung VI, O's own department, had two subsections, a. Pruefung und Entwickling and b. Betrieb. He was the head of this latter subsection. He was thus responsible generally for the maintenance of all RLM/FA's communications but was not concerned at all with devising of developing new apparatus which was the task of Abteilung a. When questioned about his connection with OKW on cipher security matters, he said that this was purely ad hoc. He was present only at discussions on the security of T52 and attended more by virtue of his previous employment with Siemens und Halske than by his present position with RLM/FA. They had no liaison with Wa Pruef VII except in connection with such apparatus as was supplied to them by this body.

B. PAETZEL

P. was deputy director of Hauptabteilung IV, Entzifferung, which comprised the following four Abteilungen:

Abt. 7-Uebersee. USA, England, Ireland, South America, Spain, Portugal, Turkey, Egypt, Far East. Personnel roughly 60-70.

Abt. 8-West und Suedwest. France, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, Italy Rumania. Personnel 30-40.

Abt. 9-Slavonic and Scandinavian. All Slavonic and Scandinavian countries plus Hungary, Greece, Finland. Personnel60-70.

Abt. 6-P. was head on this Abteilung which came into existence only in 1941 and had fewer members than the others. In fact, about 30. Whereas the other Abteilungen dealt with material which he described as "aktuell", Abt. 6 worked on problems which could not be dealt with by the others currently and was also in the nature of a research section to work on new systems. They dealt in the main with diplomatic traffic of America, Englan, Japan, Free France, Spain and Spanish America. Their main machine success was with the Swiss Enigma as long as the same machine setting was used over a longish period. He also said that they had been able to break the Finnish Hagelin on a single message if they had 4000 letters or more of text. He knew no details of the method as he had not worked on it himself. That had been done by Reg. Rat KROEGER. They could also break it of course on a compromise. When asked if they had solved any other machine systems, he replied that they had broken a Japanese

system in '41 -'42 which was thought to be a machine system though their solution was not mechanical but employed simply paper strips. They had worked also on an American strip system where 30 out of a matrix of 50 strips were employed in a setting. This traffic was America- Europe but whether Washington - London or Washington- Paris was not known.

Abt. 7 had worked on Irish reciphered codes with considerable success("zienlich laufend") up to the end on the war.

Abt. 8 had been able to read unreciphered French codes and was for the most part successful with Italian codes.

Polish agent codes were worked on by Abt. 9. A large variety of systems was employed and it was difficult to assess the organisation owing to the widespread use of cover names.

He mentioned also a Japanese main diplomatic system which employed a codebook reciphered by a combination of transposition and Raster. They were successful with this until the last phase of the war.(in letzer Zeit).

They had had a certain amount of liaison with OKH on the security of T52.

C. Seifert

S. was head of Hauptabteilung V.He confirmed the outline of the organisation already obtained and gave the following account of the founding and purpose of the RLM/FA.

The bureau was founded in 1933 at the instigation of a certain Kap.(?) SCHLMPF in order to provide diplomatic and commercial intelligence of an absolutely reliable kind by the monitoring of telephone, cable and wireless links from the Reich outward and in the case of wireless from all countries, and to insure by the setting up of a new and independent organisation the elimination of all bias which might have resulted from association with the old established ministries. The object of the department was the production of a purely objective and scientific picture of the worldwide political and commercial situation.

The new material provided by its sources was forwarded after processing to the ministries concerned under three different categories viz.:

1) The individual items of current interest ("aktuelle Meldungen").
2) Collected items on a given single subject ("zusammengefasste Meldungen")
3) Consolidated reports ("Synthesen")--e.g. Japanese-Russian relations.

He had no detailed knowledge of the crytanalytic success achieved.

D. FINGERHUT

F. was with the Hauptabteilung V from 1937 till 1942. There were four Abteilungen numbered 10-13 and F. was with Abteilung 11 whose concern was Aussenpolitik. The other subdivisions were 12)Wirtschaftspolitik, 13) Innenpolitik and 10) Archiv, Buecherei, Registraturwesen. Within Abt. 11 he was specifically concerned first with Scandinavian: in civil life he had been a Wissenschaftlicher Assistent at the University of Greifswald, philologist in Scandinavian languages. Later he specialized in Italy and finally in Russia and the Far East. In 1942 he took over the running of a newly founded school for Auswerter. He stressed however that this school did not train new personnel since they had no intake but indeed lost people to the armed forces, but existed mainly to provide refresher courses for Auswerter at the headquarters and for the people working in the Aussenstellen who by the nature of their work required a high degree of expert knowledge in the subject they covered. There were 15 to 18 of these Aussenstellen and they were the private intercept

stations of the Forschungsamt.

Questioned on the scope of their activity on Innenpolitik, he replied that they covered communications of firms and individuals to persons abroad, suspected subversive propaganda, relations of army officers with persons outside the Reich, etc.

E.KLAUTSCHKE

K. was the liaison officer (Verbindungsmann) to OKW and also OKM, OKL and OKH. Although a member of FA, he had his office in OKW. It was his job to receive material from FA and pass it on to the section concerned at OKW etc. At OKW he supplied Keitel and various departments, for example WFST/Amt Gr. Ausl, Feldwirtschaftsamt, Attache Abteilung, Abwehr and AWA. At OKM besides Doenits and his chief of staff von Davidson he supplied 3. SKL and Marineruestungsamt. At OKL [illegible]oh, LW Fuehrungsstab I C, Chef Technische L. Ruest (Genmaj. Diessing).At OKH General Staff, Fremde Heere West and Fremde Heere Ost.

There were similar liaison officers with the other ministries such as Dr. HILLIGARDT at Ruestungsministerium and Reichswirtschaftsministerium and Dr. GERSTMEYER with the Auswaertiges Amt.

His liaison duties were concerned solely with the passing of intelligence from FA to OKW etc. and of particular intelligence requests in the other direction. As far as he knew there was no liaison on cryptanalytic matters between the two. Certain raw material however which was not worked on at FA was passed regularly to OKW, for example military traffic. When asked if his connection with the OKW/ATT.Abt. meant that the FA handled attache ciphers he said no, that only the telephone conversations of their Allies ' attaches in Berlin were concerned. These were mostly about their girl friends, and never contained any hing of importance because the attaches knew they were monitored.

F. Conclusion

None of the five knew anything about a cryptanalytic section of the [illegible]affen SS. Seifert thought there couldn't have been such a thing as he had seen intercepted cipher telegrams sent to them from RSHA which RSHA had no facilities for deciphering. Paetzel, on the other hand, remarked somewhat drily that from what he knew of the stubborn independence in this matter of the various services and the Foreign Office he would not at all be surprised if such a thing in fact did exist. However he had no knowledge of it.

The party as a whole were much more forthcoming and cooperative than the interrogators had been led to expect would be the case from the previous report.